

GEORGIA:

Athens, June 1943 (edge of a swamp) and Aug. 26, 1948, J. H. Miller.

Augusta, Fruitland Nurseries, December 1941, J. H. Faull, Comm. Alma W. Waterman: February 1942 and March 23, 1942 (TYPE, USM 74223, IB 4673, MSE 427), J. H. Miller. Goshen Plantation, Apr. 7,

1943, Mrs. J. Mck. Speer (MSE 428).

Savannah, April 1944, M. E. Fowler.

LOUISIANA: Hammond, Apr. 1 and Oct. 15, 1943 (MSE 429), A. G. Plakidas. Culture isolated by Plakidas, Nov. 8, 1950, deposited in American Type Culture Collection, no. 11187.

MISSISSIPPI: Poplarville, July 16 and Sept. 3, 1942; Apr. 21 and May 19, 1943, J. A. Pinckard.

ENTOMOLOGY.—*A new larvaevorid fly parasitic on tortoise beetles in South America (Diptera)*. CURTIS W. SABROSKY, *Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine*.

In the course of studies by H. L. Parker and associates in the South American Parasite Laboratory of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, a larvaevorid fly of the genus *Eucelatoriopsis* Townsend was reared from tortoise beetles (Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae). It was recognized as new by several workers, but no description has been published. With additional material of the genus before me, and with material kindly made available by Raúl Cortés, I have reexamined the problem and offer the following description of the new species.

The genus *Eucelatoriopsis* Townsend (1927) was monobasic for *E. teffeensis* Townsend. Another species, *Dexodes meridionalis* Townsend (1912), was referred there by Townsend (*Manual of myiology*, pt. 10: 51, 1940), but it differs from the genotype and also from the new species described below in having a strong pair of median marginal bristles on the first abdominal segment of the female, minute hairlike ocellar bristles, and quite conspicuously (though short) haired eyes. It may not belong in *Eucelatoriopsis sensu stricto*.

The material before me also contains several undescribed species that do belong to *Eucelatoriopsis* in its restricted sense. Some of these may be important parasites, for all specimens of known origin were reared from various species of cassidine beetles. It is hoped that workers who have access to infestations of these beetles will rear adequate series of the parasites so that the other forms may be properly studied. At present there are available only one to four specimens per species, and usually only one sex, and it is undesirable in a group of such closely related forms to describe from such inadequate material.

***Eucelatoriopsis parkeri*, n. sp.**

Distinguished from its congeners by the head bright yellow pollinose, body with bluish-gray appearance, and thorax almost bivittate as seen with the naked eye.

Male.—Head black, the parafrontals, parafacials, cheeks, and postorbites uniformly bright yellow pollinose, the clypeus silvery and the facials somewhat intermediate; occiput black above but silvery gray pollinose below; occipital hairs white except for a few near the vertex; hairs of cheeks and parafrontals black, those of the latter short and inconspicuous; antennae and palpi black. Thorax black with bluish-gray pollen, in strong contrast to *E. teffeensis* which has bright yellowish-gray pollen; mesonotum with four moderately broad black stripes, the outer twice the width of the inner, the inner stripes much more widely separated than either is from the adjacent outer stripe, so that to the naked eye the mesonotum appears to have only two stripes (an appearance accentuated by any discoloration). Abdomen black in ground color, last three segments broadly gray pollinose on anterior two-thirds, subshining brown-black posteriorly, with narrow median black stripe, especially when viewed at certain angles. Legs black, claws brown, pulvilli yellowish. Wings clear to faintly tinted with brown.

Frontal bristles descending to point opposite the apex of second antennal segment, usually three on each side below base of antennae; typically three pairs of reclinate upper frontals; ocellars approximately equal in length to intermediate frontal bristles; facial bristles ascending only three or four, and decreasing sharply in length, above the vibrissae; width of front at vertex approximately one-fourth the width of the head. Prosternum with fine hairs laterally. Lower sternopleural bristle much shorter than the others, rarely absent or hairlike. Scutellum

broadly rounded distally, the subapical marginal scutellar bristles widely spaced, long and strong, extending beyond the hind margin of the second abdominal segment; apical scutellars cruciate, not quite as long as the discal scutellars, each of the latter inserted almost directly anterior to the base of a subapical scutellar. Abdomen typically with one pair, occasionally two, of median discal bristles on second to fourth segments. Third vein with two to four setae at base; claws and pulvilli long.

Female.—As described for the male, but with two pairs of reclinate upper frontal bristles and two pairs of proclinate frontals; width of front at vertex approximately three-tenths the width of the head, the front widening anteriorly; piercing sternotheca short, approximately equal to length of fourth abdominal segment; spines on ventral carina on second and third segments notably stronger toward the hind margin of the segment; claws and pulvilli very short.

Length.—5–6.5 mm.

Types.—Holotype male (no. 61492 in U. S. National Museum) and allotype, Montevideo, Uruguay, emerged December 21, parasite of *Chelymiorpha variabilis* var. *crucifera* Boheman (determined by Juan Bosq and H. S. Barber) feeding on *Convolvulus arvensis* L. (H. L. Parker no. 213). Paratypes: 84(37♂♂, 47♀♀), same locality and collector, with other data as follows: 11(4♂♂, 7♀♀), same data as holotype; 19(10, ♂♂ 9♀♀), February 1942, same host and host plant as holotype (Parker no. 703.1); 54(23♂♂, 31♀♀), parasitic on *Anacassis proliza* (Boheman) feeding on *Baccharis spicata* Peri, December 1941 and February 1942 (Parker nos. 634, 638). Paratypes have been deposited in the collections of the U. S. National Museum, American Museum of Natural History, British Museum (Nat. Hist.), H. J. Reinhard, Raúl Cortés, and Paul H. Arnaud, Jr.

Remarks.—The conspicuously and evenly yellow-pollinose head and bluish-gray body will distinguish the species easily from the genotype, *E. teffeensis*, and either or both of these features from most of the undescribed species now before me. In most of the others, furthermore, the mesonotum appears quadrivittate to the naked eye.

An analysis of the variation in the long and homogeneous series (topotypic and host-typic) showed that absence of a pair of median marginal bristles on the first abdominal segment in the

female, presence of a pair of apical scutellar bristles, three pairs of postsutural dorsocentrals, three sternopleurals, one posterior bristle on the fore tibia, and one anterior bristle on the mid-tibia are unusually stable characters. Most specimens have the infrascumals present, but occasional specimens lack any trace of them. The median discal bristles on the intermediate segments are definitely variable in number, especially in the females, with occasional specimens having them entirely absent, and others having them present in various combinations on different segments and sometimes between right and left sides.

The proper generic position of the new species will require much further study on a broad basis because of the many restricted genera proposed by Townsend in the Neotropical fauna. However, the presence in the female of a piercing sternotheca and spined ventral carina on the abdomen associates it readily, and probably also fundamentally, with a group of compsilurine genera such as *Compsilura* and *Eucelatoria* and with a few genera placed by Townsend in other tribes. Of this group, *Eucelatoriopsis* and *Eucelatoria* differ from the others particularly in lacking a pair of median marginal bristles on the first abdominal segment of the female. The former differs from *Eucelatoria* in having a pair of apical scutellar bristles and in lacking strong bristles on the facialia. If these last three characters prove not to be generic in value, considerable synonymy may result, but they serve for present purposes to indicate the association of the new species.

The new species agrees with the generic characters listed for *Eucelatoriopsis* by Townsend (*Manual of myiology*, pt. 10: 50, 1940) except as follows: Eyes with minute, sparse hairs; ocellar bristles moderately short in female, but decidedly longer in male (the opposite of Townsend's statement); three pairs of postacrostichal bristles (the holotype of *E. teffeensis* has only two pairs, but this may be variation, as several specimens of *E. parkeri* show the same thing); anal segment of female not as high and as large as in *teffeensis*; female abdomen generally with a pair of median discal bristles on third and fourth segments and often on the second, but sometimes with none, suggesting that the holotype of *teffeensis*, which lacks discal bristles, may also be atypical of its species. In Townsend's key to the tribe Compsilurini (*Manual of myiology*, pt.

4: 90, 1936), the use in the second couplet of the unreliable (in this species at least) character of median discal bristles will cause all males and

most females of *parkeri* to pass to couplet 3, but *parkeri* is quite unrelated to either of the genera there.

ENTOMOLOGY.—*An arrangement of the Prepodesmiidae, a family of African millipeds.* RALPH V. CHAMBERLIN, University of Utah. (Communicated by C. W. Sabrosky.)

The group of millipeds for which Dr. O. F. Cook in 1895 proposed the family name Prepodesmiidae is likely to prove to be one of considerable size. Owing to additions made by more recent workers, a revision of the family seems desirable, and such has been projected by the present writer. However, pending the accumulation of more adequate material for this purpose, it is hoped that the present checklist, embracing the arrangement and conception of genera provisionally adopted, may prove useful. My thanks are due to Dr. E. A. Chapin, of the U. S. National Museum, for the privilege of studying the prepodesmids of the important O. F. Cook collection, thus making it possible for the first time to indicate with confidence the relationships of the genera proposed by that pioneer student of West African Diplopoda.

Family PREPODESMIIDAE Cook

Prepodesmiidae Cook, Amer. Nat. **30**: 416, 1896.
Cordyloporinae (as a subfamily of Oxydesmiidae)
Brolemann, Ann. Soc. Ent. France **84**: 562, 1916.

PREPODESMINAE, n. subfam.

Proposed for the group of genera in which the male gonopods have a conspicuous accessory process arising from the femoral division proximal of the origin of the solenomerite.

Genus *Ancylochetus* Attems

Ancylochetus Attems, Zoologica **30** (3/4) (Heft 79): 96, 1931.

Generotype: *Ancylochetus signatus* Attems.

Ancylochetus signatus Attems

Ancylochetus signatus Attems, Zoologica **30** (3/4) (Heft 79): 96, figs. 138-140, 1931.
(LIBERIA.)

Basacantha, n. gen.

Characterized primarily by having a branch or spine from the base of the solenomerite. (Fig. 1.)
Generotype: *Anisodesmus lundae* Chamberlin.

Basacantha decora (Attems)

Cordyloporus decorus Attems, Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. **17**: 334, fig. 41, 1929.
(BELGIAN CONGO.)

Basacantha lundae (Chamberlin)

Anisodesmus lundae Chamberlin, Publ. Cult. Companhia Diamantes Angola **10**: 82, figs. 45-46, 1951.
(ANGOLA.)

Basacantha mechowi (Karsch)

Rachidomorpha Mechowi Karsch, Berliner Ent. Zeitschr. **25**: 287, 1881.
Cordyloporus mechowi Attems, Denkschr. Akad. Wien **67**: 365, pl. 5, figs. 108-110, 1898.
Paltothorus mechowi Attems, Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. **17**: 338, fig. 46, 1929.
(BELGIAN CONGO.)

Genus *Diaphorodesmus* Silvestri

Diaphorodesmus Silvestri, Ann. Mus. Genova **36**: 199, 1896.

Generotype: *Paradesmus dorsicornis* Porat.

Diaphorodesmus dorsicornis (Porat)

Paradesmus dorsicornis Porat, Bihang. Svenska Akad. **20** (5): 33, fig. 3, 1894.
Diaphorodesmus dorsicornis Silvestri, Ann. Mus. Genova **36**: 197, 1896.
(CAMEROUN, SPANISH GUINEA.)

Kisantus, n. gen.

Related most closely to *Pimodesmus*. Distinguished in having the mesal branch of the gonopods long, straight, and with a spine at base; the ectal lobe of the tibiotarsus a broad lamina widening distad and at the end curving into a hood or canopy beset with spinous points. (Fig. 2.)

Generotype: *Paltothorus tridens* Attems.

Kisantus tridens (Attems)

Paltothorus tridens Attems, Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. **30**: 62, figs. 41-43, 1937.
(BELGIAN CONGO.)

Congesmus, n. gen.

Related to *Basacantha* but lacking a spine at base of the solenomerite. The lateral femoral